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contribution,—needed especially by the workers for reform, who have sought so patiently to understand a practice which has worked, and beside which all others have failed.

The chapters on historical and educational illustrations are especially to be commended. Possibly no clearer proof of formalism's necessary suicide could be adduced than that which the reference to dead languages supplies. The difference between education as a discipline and education as a vocation, between philosophy as form and as force, this is the difference upon which Professor Lloyd insists, and in so doing he has pointed new ways for the educator and opportunity to the reformer. The entire book is a protest against the evils of abstraction of every sort. Is an attempt to see the world whole. It is a contribution to practical ethics which should deepen the faith and enlarge the hope of those who labor directly for social betterment. A defect which should not go unnoted is found in the author's failure to indicate the process value of the scientific analyses which he criticises. Not to have done so may be a failure to apply his own tests, but is more likely due to the limits which he has set for himself. His too frequently unmeditated sentences may prove troublesome, but to him who persevereth he offers much that cannot fail to provoke thought and enrich both theory and practice.

E. C. MOORE.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA.

STUDIES IN THE PSYCHOLOGY OF SEX. Vol. I., Sexual Inversion.

By Havelock Ellis. London; Watford: The University Press, 1897. Pp. xvii, 204.

AN UNKNOWN PEOPLE. By Edward Carpenter. London: A. & H. B. Bonner, 1897. Pp. 37.

The aim of Mr. Carpenter's pamphlet, reprinted from the "Reformer," is to give a popular account of sexual inversion. He presents the main facts in an accurate and agreeable form, saying little, of course, about their darker side. His chief point is that the class of inverts may have a useful function in society as reconcilers and interpreters between the two sexes.

Mr. Havelock Ellis's study is a solid and valuable contribution to the psychology of the same subject. As his book has been made the occasion of a criminal prosecution, it may be as well to put it on record that his mode of treatment is unexceptionable. He writes with equal self-respect and thoroughness, and gives the im-

pression that he is a genuine scientific man doing his best to illustrate an obscure and important province of human nature.

At present there are two main theories about sexual inversion ; according to the first it is congenital, according to the second it is the result of habit and suggestion, and therefore curable through counter-suggestion by the hypnotic physician. Mr. Ellis adopts the congenital theory with due allowance for the secondary influence of the other factors. "In sexual inversion we have what may fairly be called a 'sport' or variation, one of those organic aberrations which we see throughout living nature, in plants and in animals."

In the practical conclusions with which he ends his work Mr. Ellis is commendably cautious. The whole study is yet in a somewhat elementary state, and more data must be accumulated before any conclusions can be more than probable. He speaks, however, with some emphasis in condemning the hypnotic methods for the "cure" of sexual inversion. They are, he argues with reason, both futile and repulsive. It is a mistake to encourage inverts to marry and perpetuate an abnormal stock. "Sometimes, indeed, the tendency to sexual inversion in eccentric and neurotic families seems merely to be Nature's merciful method of winding up a concern which, from her point of view, has ceased to be profitable." It is useless, he says, to try to change the invert's nature. It is better to influence him to a good life and to direct his homosexual sympathies into channels which will make him a useful and happy member of society.

Mr. Ellis further recommends a relaxation of the severe English law against unnatural vice. Here he is less convincing. Our present law is not very logical, but, from the general common sense of those who administer it, seems to work fairly well.

There are some who would raise the general question whether a subject like the present can fitly be made the matter of a published treatise. Many excellent persons have a horror of everything related to the homosexual tendency. Their feeling commands our respect, and yet it seems better to have the subject brought out into publicity. That all sorts of immature and half-educated people should read Mr. Ellis's book is, of course, most undesirable. But in view of the prevalence of sexual inversion it is necessary that every schoolmaster, every criminal lawyer, we had almost said every head of a family, should be acquainted with its phenomena. Were the subject better understood, mistakes would be avoided that have ruined thousands of lives.

H. S.